

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

550 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020

Reply To: (213) 738-4601  
Fax: (213) 386-1297

June 06, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE TERM OF FIVE CONSULTANT  
SERVICES AGREEMENTS FOR SITING MENTAL  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

Request approval to extend the term of five Consultant Services Agreements for the provision of consultation services to Department of Mental Health and Department of Mental Health's contracted providers seeking to site new mental health programs or facilities, and for authority to execute similar agreements with additional qualified agencies.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health (Director), or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute amendments, substantially similar to Attachment I, to extend the term of five existing Consultant Services Agreements (Agreements) from June 30, 2012, to June 30, 2013, with the following five consultants: 1) A Community of Friends; 2) Law Office of Kim Savage; 3) Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc.; 4) NAMI Urban Los Angeles; and 5) Step Up on Second. These agreements allow these consultants to provide on an "as needed basis" support to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and to DMH-contracted mental health providers in siting new mental health facilities and affordable supportive housing developments in accordance with DMH's approved Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan. The amendments will be effective June 30, 2012 and will extend the term of the Agreements for one year, with a provision for four automatic one-year renewal periods. The funding for all five agreements will not exceed \$50,000 for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2012-13 through 2016-17. These agreements will be fully funded by State MHSA revenue.

2. Delegate authority to the Director, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future Agreements, substantially similar to Attachment II, with additional qualified agencies that respond favorably to DMH's Request For Statement of Interest (RFSI) for Siting new Mental Health Programs or Facilities under the MHSA.

3. Delegate authority to the Director, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments that add a specific Statement of Work (SOW) to the Agreement for specific siting projects as such projects are developed provided that: 1) approval of County Counsel, or designee, is obtained prior to any such amendments; 2) the cost of each siting project does not exceed \$10,000; and 3) the Director, or his designee, notifies your Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of any such amendment in writing within 30 days after execution of each amendment.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The five Consultant Services Agreements for siting mental health facilities and programs are currently authorized through June 30, 2012. Approval of the recommended actions will allow DMH to extend the term of the existing Agreements and to contract with other qualified agencies for support on an "as needed basis" to agencies that anticipate community opposition to siting facilities or housing developments in neighborhoods where clients can readily access services or housing.

DMH will not guarantee a qualified contractor a specific project or a funding amount as this will be based on the specific needs for siting related consultant services. Once a request is received from DMH directly-operated clinics, contract agencies and/or other community-based agencies, a SOW will be developed in conjunction with the requesting agency. The SOW will be sent out to bid to consultants determined to be qualified pursuant to DMH's RFSI for Siting new Mental Health Programs or Facilities under the MHSA. The County will compensate the consultant selected for each project in accordance with the rates established in their individual agreement, which will remain the same in this extension. Projects will vary in length, time and intensity, and may include hands-on consulting to project managers, training, preparing written material, community involvement, attending meetings or other tasks that may be required to site a project in the community. Each project will be limited to \$10,000.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions are consistent with County's Strategic Plan Goal 3, Integrated Services Delivery.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total funding available for these Agreements in FY 2012-13 is \$50,000 fully funded with State MHSA revenue included in DMH's FY 2012-13 Recommended Budget. Funding for future fiscal years will be requested in the Department's annual budget request process.

The Agreements do not contain a contract dollar amount. The County will not guarantee a contractor a specific project or funding amount as this will be based on an "as needed basis."

There is no net County cost impact associated with this action.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Siting issues and conflicts have been a long-standing obstacle and deterrent to establishing new community programs and facilities and/or affordable housing that serve individuals with mental illness. There have been numerous incidents in the past in which neighborhood coalitions have actively and vigorously protested sites selected to provide mental health services or affordable housing and, in some instances, have prevailed in having the program site moved elsewhere.

In anticipation that communities may strongly oppose DMH's efforts to implement the new programs funded through the MHSA, DMH stakeholders identified funds to develop siting strategies that would both raise public awareness and address the opposition community referred to as "Not In My Back Yard" (NIMBYism) before and during the implementation of new mental health facilities or affordable housing, and provide direct consultation to providers currently engaged, or about to be engaged, in the siting process.

The attached amendment and agreement formats have been approved as to form by County Counsel. DMH will administer the agreements to ensure that the consultant/training services requested are provided and that the agreement provisions and Departmental policies are being followed.

Attachment III provides information regarding Contracting with Minority/Women-Owned Firms Percentage of Ownership in Firms Contracting with the County.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

On September 30, 2008, DMH issued a Request for Information (RFI) and on May 12, 2010, DMH issued a RFSI for "Siting New Mental Health Programs or Facilities" under the MHSA (Bid# DMH093008B1 and Bid# DMH051210B1)" to over 1,400 agencies and individuals on the DMH master bidders' list, and posted the RFI/RFSI on the County and DMH websites: (<http://lacounty.info>) and (<http://dmh.lacounty.info/RFSQ>). Seven agencies responded to the RFI or RFSI. The five contractors listed on Attachment IV met the minimum qualifications and successfully responded to the Siting Mental Health Facilities and Programs RFI or RFSI. Your Board previously authorized DMH to enter into agreements with these five contractors effective through June 30, 2012. The proposed amendments will extend these agreements through June 30, 2017.

DMH will accept responses to the Siting Program RFSI on a continuous basis through June 30, 2012, and an addendum to the RFSI will be posted to extend this date to June 30, 2017, provided that funding remains available.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The extension of these Consultant Services Agreements will ensure the uninterrupted provisions of needed support to DMH directly-operated programs, contract agencies and/or community-based agencies who are currently experiencing opposition or anticipate difficulty with locating their program or affordable housing in the community will avail themselves of the opportunity to consult with experts in the areas of siting.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

6/6/2012

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mg Southard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mg" being more abbreviated than the last name "Southard".

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.

Director of Mental Health

MJS:RK:MM:RK:jn

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Chairperson, Mental Health Commission